

Winterport Business Association Meeting  
239 Main Street, Winterport, Maine  
November 5, 2008

1. Convene Meeting
2. Introductions of People Attending Meeting
3. Accept Minutes of Last Meeting  
Of Tuesday, October 7, 2008
4. Treasurer's Report
5. New Business
  - a. Christmas Party
  - b. Shop Local Incentives
6. Old Business
7. Open Table – “Idea Exchange”
8. Next Meeting – Tuesday December 2, 2008, Town Office
9. Adjourn

Minutes of Winterport Business Association Meeting  
October 7, 2008

Meeting convened and started at 7:30 a.m.

The meetings began with the introduction of businesses attending. It was also reiterated that business owners should bring their business cards with them to meetings.

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted.

Treasurer's Report – Town Manager, Phil Pitula, brought up that there is still some money left in the bank account from the previous business association. Treasurer, Tammy Higgins, was on sabbatical so there was no further items to report.

It was brought up by Joe Brooks that the owner of the Winterport Docks and is also working with a salvage company to dispose of the barge which is currently sinking.

Joe further brought up that Chris Schramm from EMDC is looking to come and do a comprehensive study and profit on the town of Winterport which would help the town to attract businesses looking to relocate. Winterport could attract different businesses due to its airport and the pipeline that goes thru it. Chris would also like to come and speak to the business association. Joe will arrange this for the January meeting.

It was further stated that Winterport could be affect by what might get voted in for Sears Island. If a cargo port is voted in, most likely Route 1A would see an increase in heavy truck usage.

President Deb Newman is currently working on getting prices from printers to do stickers and directory of Winterport businesses. Joe Brooks stated that once prices are gotten, it might do us good to have a committee put it together.

Annual Dues – These will be waived until the following year.

Grants may be available to the association and Tammy Higgins is working to see what exactly is available.

Christmas Party – Ann Ronco made mention that in the past a business has taken it upon themselves to have a Christmas party for the Winterport businesses and that maybe this year the Winterport Business Association could host it. Phil Pitula suggested that the association donate during the Christmas time either canned goods, presents for kids, or help with heating assistance.

There was also a reminder that there is a Fuel Fund Program available in town for those who are in need.

A motion was made to change the meeting time to 5:15 p.m. instead of the morning since so many businesses said they were unable to make it in the morning. Phil Pitula offered either the Victoria Grant Convention Center or the Town Office for a meeting space due to larger quarters. It was unanimously approved. Therefore, meeting time will now be the first Tuesday of the month at 5:15 in the evenings at the Town Office. Phil Pitula also offered the new signage board that was recently put up by the Boys Scouts (across from the Exxon Station) as a way of advertising when our meetings are.

The Winterport Business Association is adapting the theme this year of "Shop Local." This theme will help keep in the minds of people to support the local businesses, keep money in town, and save on gas by not having to travel for goods. It was further stated that the directory of businesses being planned will also remind people businesses in town that are available to them. Joe Brooks will be putting a notice in the paper promoting businesses in town.

Deb Newman reminded everyone that the association's minutes will be posted on the town's website so everyone will be informed as to what went on.

Phil Pitula suggested that on our agenda we need to state the next time and place for our meeting.

A question was put out then if we should change the day of the next meeting since it would fall on November 4, voting day. It was voted unanimously to change the day to Wednesday, November 5.

Phil Pitula suggested the association have a table at the voting place to promote the association. The association is planning on doing so.

Joe Brooks suggested we need to add to the agenda an open idea exchange so those attending may feel free to voice opinions, throw out ideas, etc. This will now become part of the agenda.

Phil Pitula suggested that we sponsor a "Business of the Month" at each meeting. This business will be highlighted on the website and highlighted at the meeting. The business will be picked by putting all Winterport business cards in a cookie and picked randomly (another good reason to bring business cards to the meetings.)

Laurel from the Clothesline suggested that the association have a welcome wagon to welcome new businesses that come into town and also let them know that there is an association in town.

Deb Newman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 a.m. Unanimously approved.

# **WINTERPORT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

MEETINGS 1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
5:15 P.M. – TOWN OFFICE

Make your voice heard for your business.

Did you know there's a town website ??

Did you know that if you have a business in Winterport that your business is being promoted on that town website ?

**Association Theme – SHOP WINTERPORT**

More Information Call – Deb Newman, Maine Bytes – 223-